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PRESS RELEASE

U.S. APPOINTS FIRST SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

DHAKA, MARCH 6 -- President Bush has appointed Mr. Sada Cumber as Special Envoy to the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC). As Special Envoy, Mr. Cumber will serve as the United States representative to the OIC, and will seek to promote mutual understanding and dialogue between the United States and Muslim communities around the world.

Mr. Cumber was born in Karachi, Pakistan in 1951. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Commerce and a Master's Degree in History, both from the University of Karachi. Mr. Cumber came to the United States in 1978 and has been an American citizen since 1986.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Cumber was an entrepreneur and investor based in Austin, Texas. As an entrepreneur, Mr. Cumber has specialized in national and global network strategy, strategic marketing, business planning and institution building. Mr. Cumber has been active in the public sphere, serving on the boards of various Texas-based and international organizations, including the Board of Directors of the Texas Economic Development Board and the Governor's Task Force on Higher Education. Mr. Cumber has also been active in civic organizations, advisory councils, and charitable foundations.

Mr. Cumber is committed to using his multicultural background and extensive business, social, and political skills to promote cooperation across cultures, to support international economic development and help advance meaningful dialogue among the world's religious communities.

For more information about Mr. Cumber, please visit

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/biog/101432.htm>.

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Note: A Bangla translation of this article is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: [http:// dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov)